Experiments to run motor vehicles on Compressed Natural Gas

*192. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

SHRI J. P. GOYAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether experiments have been made by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission in the country for conversion of vehicles to be run on the Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) instead of the conventional liquid fuels-petrol and diesel;

(b) if so, what are the results thereof;

(c) what is the extent of saving which is likely to arise with the switch-over to (CNG) per 100 kilometers over a petrol driven or diesel driven vehicle; and

(b) by when it is proposed to switch-over to the use of CNG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) This is a pilot project for testing the suitability of compressed natural gas in Indian conditions and examining its feasibility. The savings likely to arise with the switch over to CNG can be estimated only after the results of the experiment are finalised.

Foreign collaboration for manufacturing razor blades

*193. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report which appeared in the 'Economic Times' of July 4, 1987 regarding the Foreign Collaboration of Park Davis with Warner Lambert of USA for manufacturing razor blades;

(b) if so, what are the basic out lines of the proposal approved; and

(c) what is the contemplated export obligation and what is the foreign exchange outflow; and how does this compare with corresponding aspects of the other razor blade makers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The letter of intent granted to the Company is for manufacture of 240 million nos. of stainless steel razor blades and 60 million nos. of twin blade units. The undertaking is to be located in a backward area of Maharashtra/Andhra Pradesh. So far as the foreign collaboration proposal is concerned, specific information, particularly in relation to financial details, terms offered, terms approved etc. are not revealed in public interest as a matter of policy.

(c) Messrs. Parke Davis are required to export 5 per cent of their porduction of safety razor blades for a period of five years. This is in line with the existing export obligation in the case of the House of Malhotras who currently account for the bulk of the production of razor blades in the country. One other unit viz. Messrs. Indian Shaving Products Ltd. are required to export 25 per cent of their production of safety razor blades. No export obligation has been imposed in the case of either Messrs. Sharpedge Ltd. or Wiltech Ltd. The estimated foreign exchange outgo on the scheme of Messrs. Parke Devis Ltd. will be determined as and when the import of capital goods etc. is settled. Messrs. Parke Davis are not allowed the use of any foreign trade mark on the internal sales of their products.

Long term power plan of CEA

*194. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA:

SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has prepared a long term